

MARVEL

11

**SOULE
GARNEY
MILLA**

ASTONISHING

X-MEN



LAND
fgd

SCOTLAND.

THE GARDEN OF PROTEUS.

GROWN IN WHAT WAS
ONCE THE VILLAGE OF
FETTERS HILL IN THE
SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS.

THE MINDS
OF THE THREE
HUNDRED AND
FIFTY PEOPLE
WHO LIVED
THERE--
ITS SOIL.

ITS FRUIT...

...REALITY.

WHERE
THE GARDEN
GROWS,
NOTHING
IS FIXED.
WHAT YOU
THINK, IS.
WHAT YOU
HOPE, IS.
WHAT YOU
WISH, IS.

WHAT YOU
FEAR...IS.

FETTERS HILL
IS NO MORE.
ONLY THE GARDEN
REMAINS, A GESTALT
OF THE VILLAGERS'
MINDSCAPES, TWISTED
AND STRANGE.

THIS WILL BE
THE FATE OF
THE WORLD.

PROTEUS HAS
TORN DOWN THE
WALLS AROUND
HIS GARDEN AND
URGED IT TO
GROW. IT WILL.

IT
ABSOLUTELY
WILL.

FOR
LIKE ANY
GARDEN...



EDINBURGH.

...IT IS
FULL OF
SEEDS.



DUBLIN.

THOOM



COPENHAGEN.



CAIRO.



PHILADELPHIA.

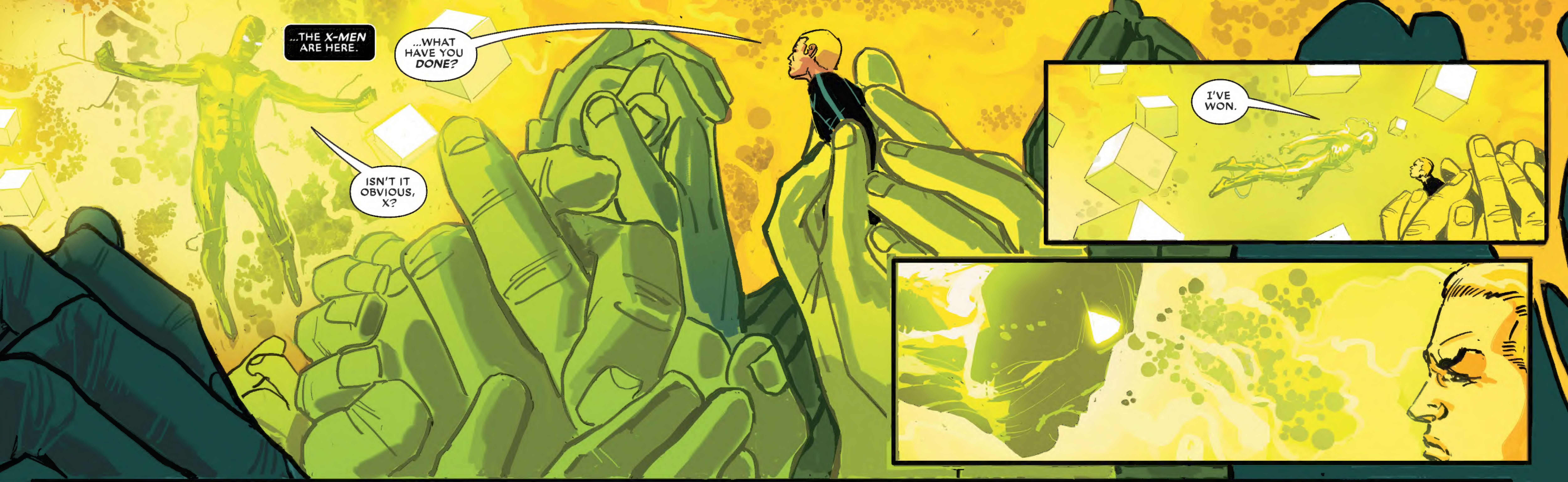


TOKYO.

WHO
WILL STOP
PROTEUS?

WHO WILL
SAVE THE
WORLD?

NEVER
FEAR...



...THE X-MEN ARE HERE.

...WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS, X?

I'VE WON.

TAKE HIM.



SSSSHHHHHHKKKK

ACT II

ASTONISHING X-MEN

A MAN CALLED X PART FIVE

PROTEUS HAS DEFEATED THE X-MEN.

HE HAS ACHIEVED HIS GOAL OF SEEDING REALITY GARDENS ALL ACROSS THE WORLD THAT WILL SOON CREATE HIS PARADISE: A PLANET WHERE ALL SEVEN BILLION OF US GET TO DEFINE OUR OWN REALITY. WHAT WE DREAM, WILL BE. WHAT WE WANT, WILL BE. WHAT WE NEED, WILL BE.

BUT SOME DREAMS ARE NIGHTMARES, AND WHAT YOU WANT AND NEED MAY NOT BE WHAT I WANT AND NEED. WHAT PROTEUS CALLS PARADISE, WE MIGHT CALL HELL.

OH WELL. IT'S TOO LATE. AFTER ALL...PROTEUS HAS DEFEATED THE X-MEN.

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PSYLOCKE TAKES
COMMAND, AS THE
OTHERS ASKED
HER TO DO.

THEY DON'T
TRUST ME YET.
I UNDERSTAND.

GO.

LIKE WE
PLANNED.



I'M ON IT,
PSYLOCKE!

SSK

ARCHANGEL IS FIRST, WITH HIS RAZOR-
FEATHERS. SHARP ENOUGH TO CUT DIAMOND,
AND TIPPED WITH A NEUROTOXIN THAT
COULD PUT A T. REX TO SLEEP.

BUT THAT IS NOT
WHY HIS WEAPONS
ARE USEFUL HERE.

IT IS BECAUSE THEY ARE
METAL, AND FOR PROTEUS,
METAL IS WEAKNESS.
METAL IS PAIN.

AAGH!



THIS TEAM IS
FORTUNATE.

IT HAS
METAL TO
SPARE.

NO...
NO...LOGAN...
WHY?

SLSH

YOU KNOW WHY,
MACTAGGERT.

AND
EVEN IF YOU
DON'T, IF YOU'RE
REALLY THAT
DELUDED...



...I
DO.





PSYLOCKE!
THIS IS NOT
OUR ONLY
BATTLE!

I KNOW,
X. REALITY
SEEDS ARE
SPROUTING
ALL OVER THE
PLANET. I
CAN FEEL
THEM.



X-MEN--
PRESS THE
ATTACK ON
PROTEUS.
FOLLOW
THE BATTLE
PLAN. HE'S
YOURS. DON'T
LET HIM
ESCAPE.

X AND
I WILL
SAVE THE
WORLD.



X AND PSYLOCKE
THINK THEY'RE GONNA
DO IT ALL BY
THEMSELVES?

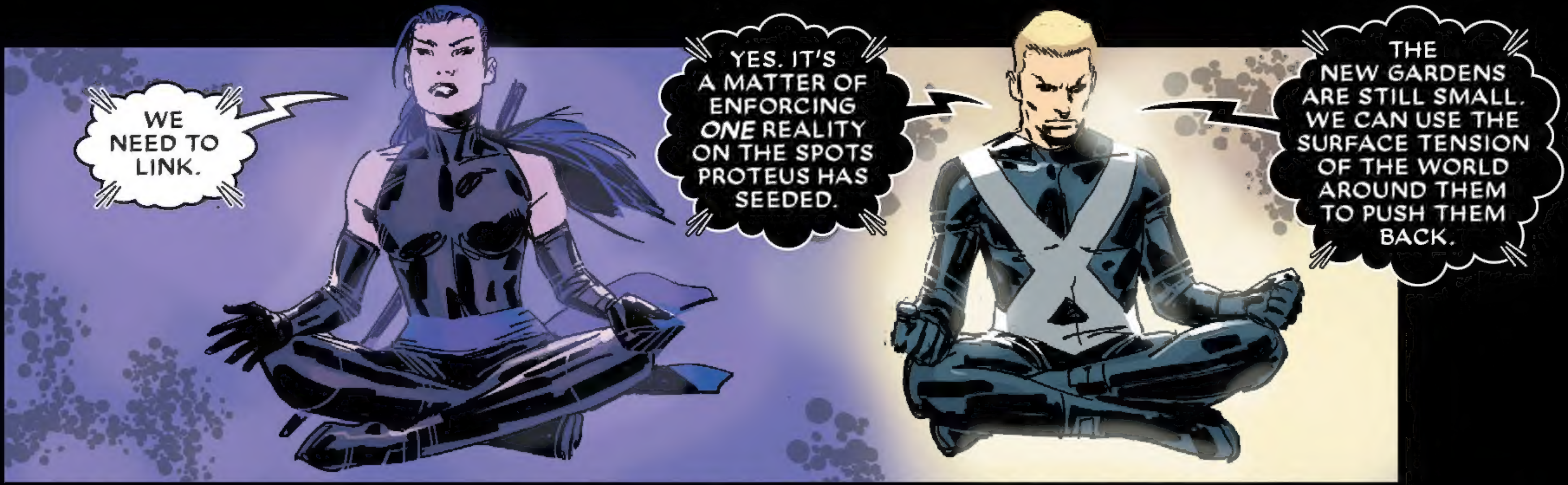
WHAT
D'YOU SUPPOSE
THEY THINK
WE'RE DOING,
ROGUE?

EH. PSYCHICS.
THINK THEY
KNOW EVERYTHING.
LET 'EM HAVE
THEIR FUN,
GAMBIT.

WE GOT
OUR HANDS
PLENTY FULL
RIGHT HE--



GET
OFF!



WE
NEED TO
LINK.

YES. IT'S
A MATTER OF
ENFORCING
ONE REALITY
ON THE SPOTS
PROTEUS HAS
SEEDED.

THE
NEW GARDENS
ARE STILL SMALL.
WE CAN USE THE
SURFACE TENSION
OF THE WORLD
AROUND THEM
TO PUSH THEM
BACK.



GET UP.
THIS ISN'T
OVER.

FOR GOD'S
SAKE, BISHOP,
WE KNOW.

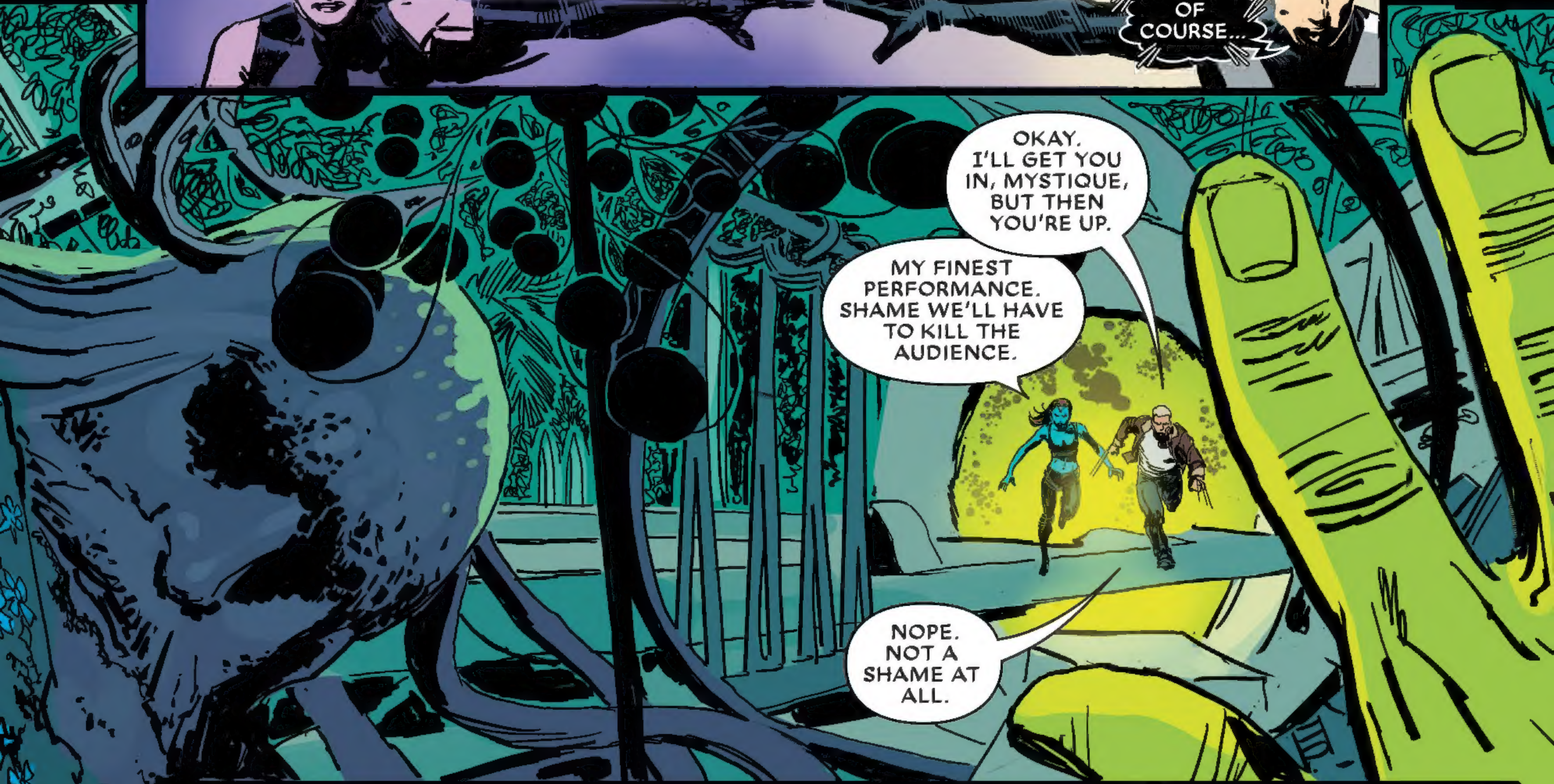


IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO
PUSH THEM BACK. WE HAVE
TO **BURN THEM OUT**, OR
THERE'S A CHANCE THEY'LL
SPROUT AGAIN.

AGREED.
I THINK I
CAN--

NO. I'M TAKING LEAD
ON THIS. GIVE ME YOUR
STRENGTH, I'LL DECIDE
HOW WE USE IT.

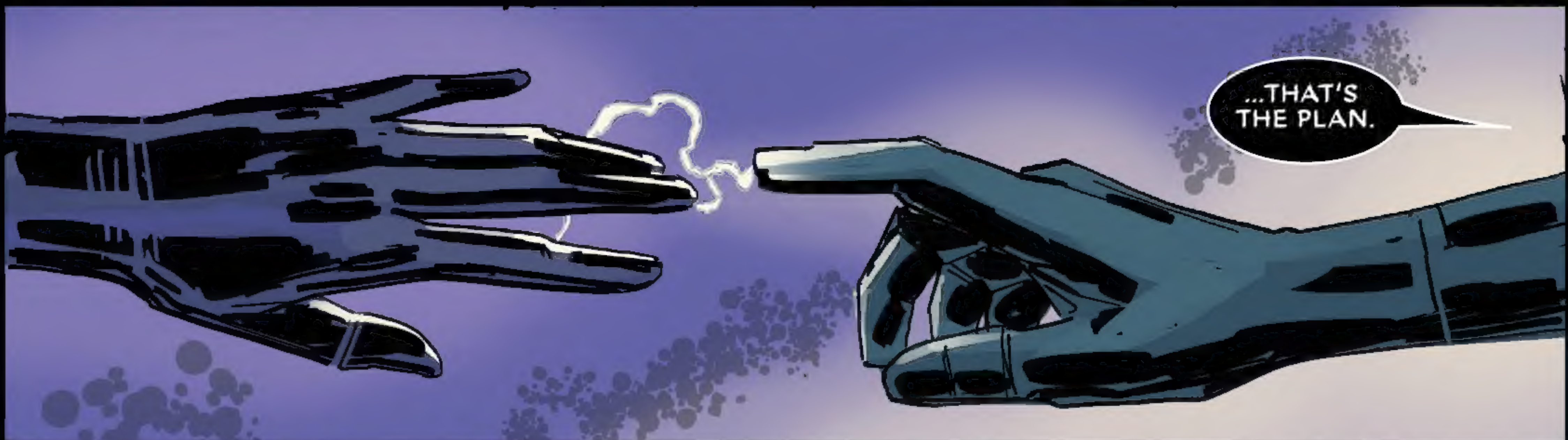
YES,
PSYLOCKE.
OF COURSE...



OKAY.
I'LL GET YOU
IN, MYSTIQUE,
BUT THEN
YOU'RE UP.

MY FINEST
PERFORMANCE.
SHAME WE'LL HAVE
TO KILL THE
AUDIENCE.

NOPE.
NOT A
SHAME AT
ALL.



...THAT'S
THE PLAN.



NOT THAT IT MATTERS ALL THAT MUCH TO ME, BUT ISN'T THIS TECHNICALLY A TOWN'S WORTH OF PEOPLE?

SEEMS A BIT OUT OF CHARACTER FOR YOU, LOGAN. ORDINARILY, YOU'D BE MOVING HEAVEN AND EARTH TO TRY TO SAVE THEM.

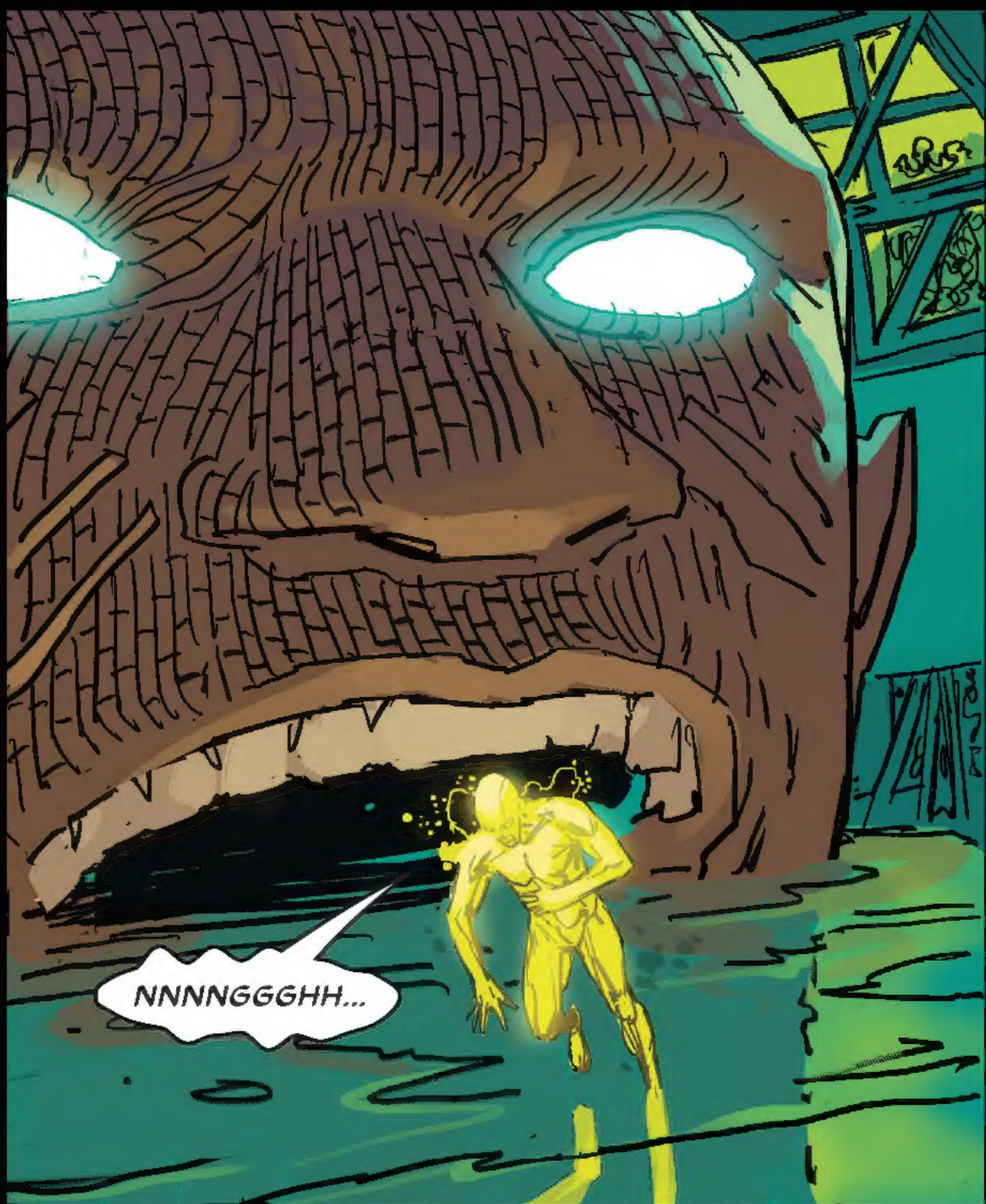
THERE'S NO HEAVEN. AND I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I HAVE TO TELL YOU PEOPLE THIS...

SHHKK



...I'M NOT YOUR LOGAN.

SSSK



NNNNGGGHH...



AARGH!

SSSK



ANGEL. ANGEL.

ALL RIGHT...



...TIME FOR YOU TO FALL.



KTTHHHHHH

AGH!



WHAT...MY WINGS!

FSSSHKK



NO!



WARREN!

YOU CAN'T HELP HIM NOW, PSYLOCKE. ARCHANGEL WILL FIGHT HIS BATTLE.

WE WILL FIGHT OURS.



KRRCK

TOKYO.

IT'S...IT'S NOT
ENOUGH.

I KNOW. WE CAN
BARELY HANDLE THE
SEED GROWING IN JAPAN,
AND THERE ARE OTHERS,
ALL AROUND THE WORLD.
IF THEY CONTINUE TO
GROW...IT'S OVER.

I HAVE...A THOUGHT.
WHEN THE SHADOW
KING FIRST ATTACKED
YOU, BACK IN LONDON,
YOU COULD *FEEL* THE
NETWORK OF PSYCHICS
HE WAS TRYING TO
ACCESS TO ESCAPE
THE ASTRAL
PLANE.

IF YOU
COULD TAP
INTO THAT, USE
IT HERE...

YES.

ZZZKRAK

IT'S
ALL WE
HAVE.



NO...NOT
RIGHT...NOT
FAIR...



NO,
KEVIN.

IT'S
NOT FAIR
AT ALL.



...MA?

YES, SON.
I'M HERE.



BUT YE...
YER DEAD.
I WATCHED
IT HAPPEN,
FROM...

SO ARE YOU,
KEVIN. I WATCHED
THAT, TOO. BUT
HERE WE ARE.



NO. DO YE
THINK I'M A
FOOL? MOIRA
MACTAGGERT
IS DEAD, AND
I'M GLAD
OF IT.

YER
MYSTIQUE,
OR SOME
OTHER
BLEEDIN'
ILLUSION.



WHY DID YOU CREATE THIS GARDEN, SON? SO THAT DREAMS COULD COME TRUE.

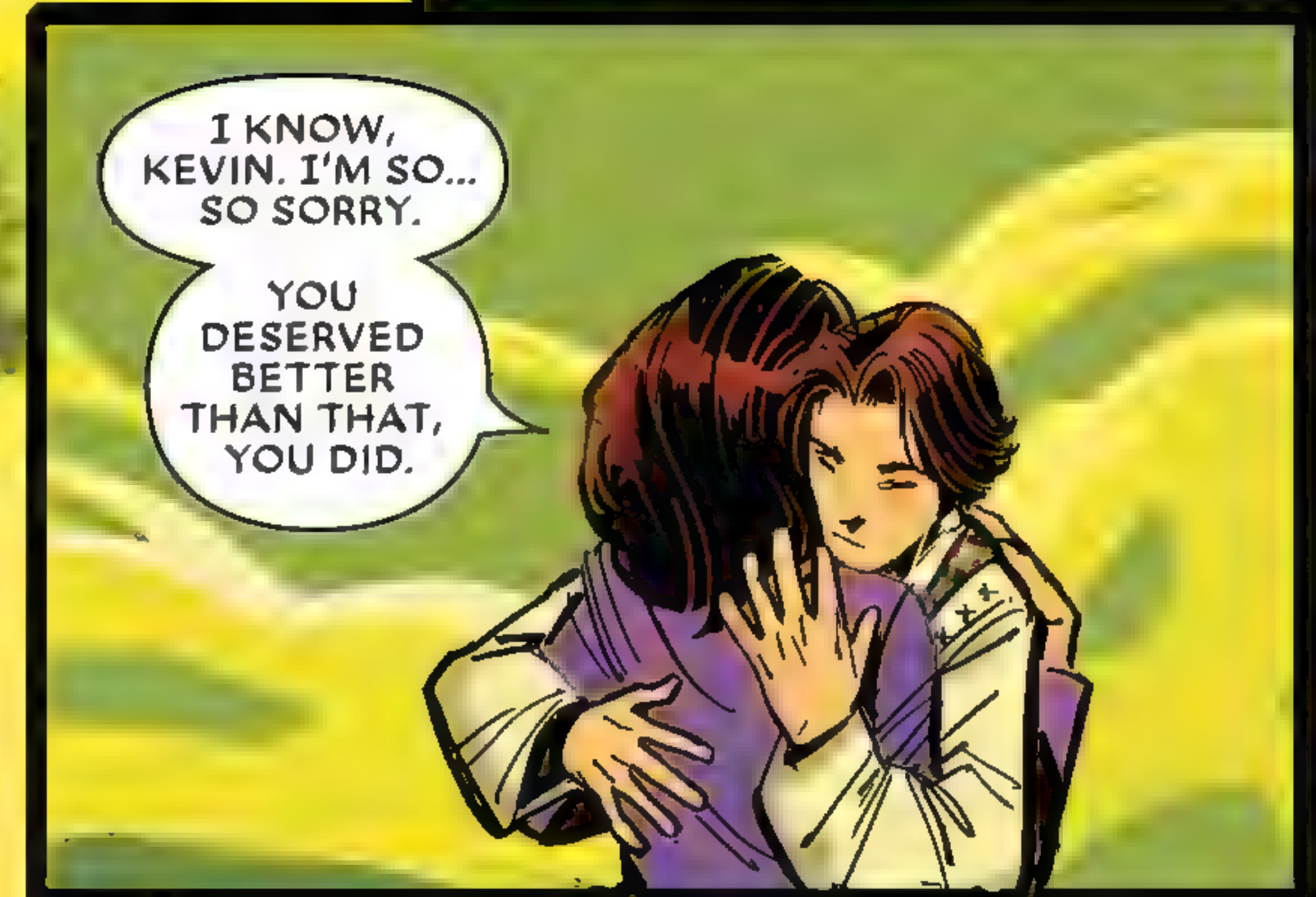
YOU'RE TRYING TO GIVE THAT GIFT TO THE WORLD...



...WHO'S TO SAY YOU CAN'T GIVE IT TO YOURSELF?

I...I...BUT YE...YE PUT ME IN A CAGE, MA. TREATED ME LIKE AN ANIMAL. DIDN'T LET ME LIVE.

MADE ME FEEL LIKE A MONSTER. WHAT DID YE *THINK* WOULD HAPPEN TO ME?



I KNOW, KEVIN. I'M SO... SO SORRY.

YOU DESERVED BETTER THAN THAT, YOU DID.



YOU WERE JUST A CHILD.

NOTHING YOU DID WAS YOUR FAULT. IT WAS EVERYONE ELSE. NEVER YOU.

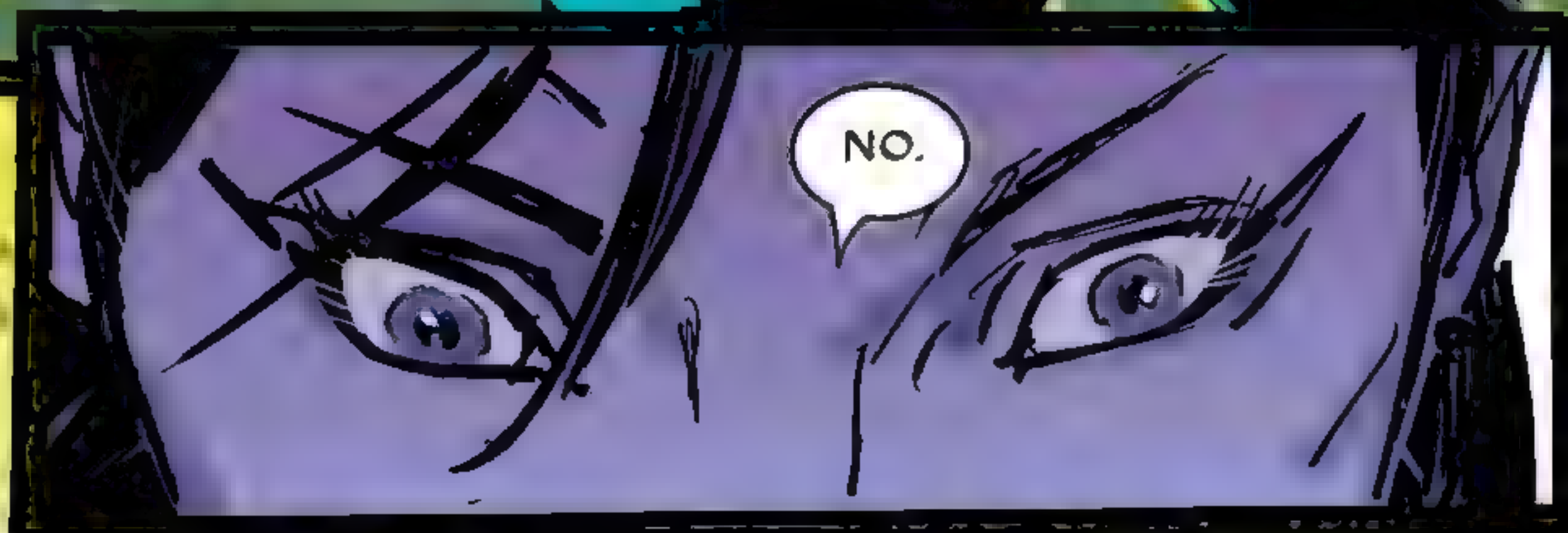
I...

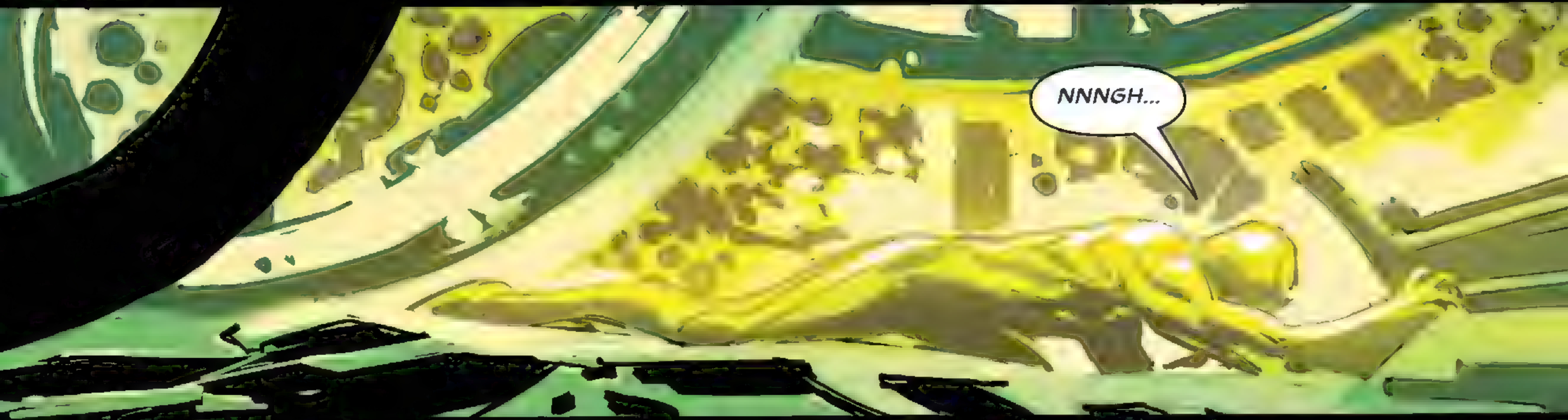


NNNGH...

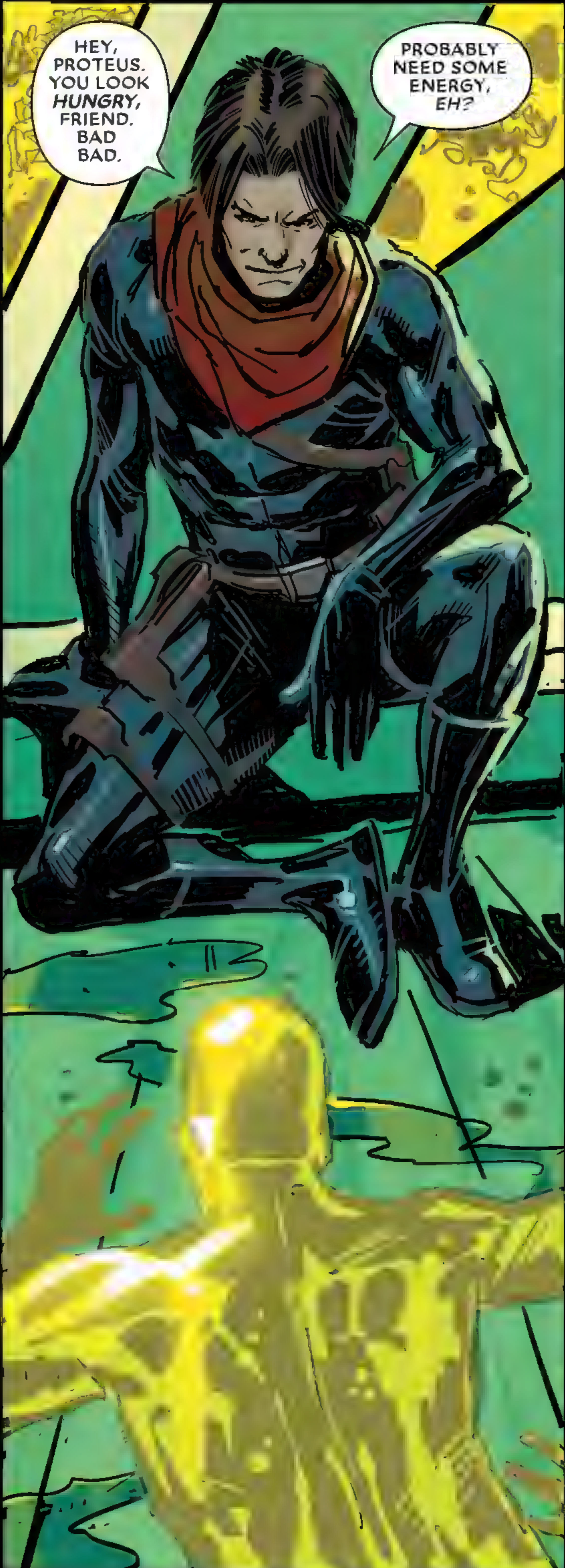
YOU DESERVE THIS.





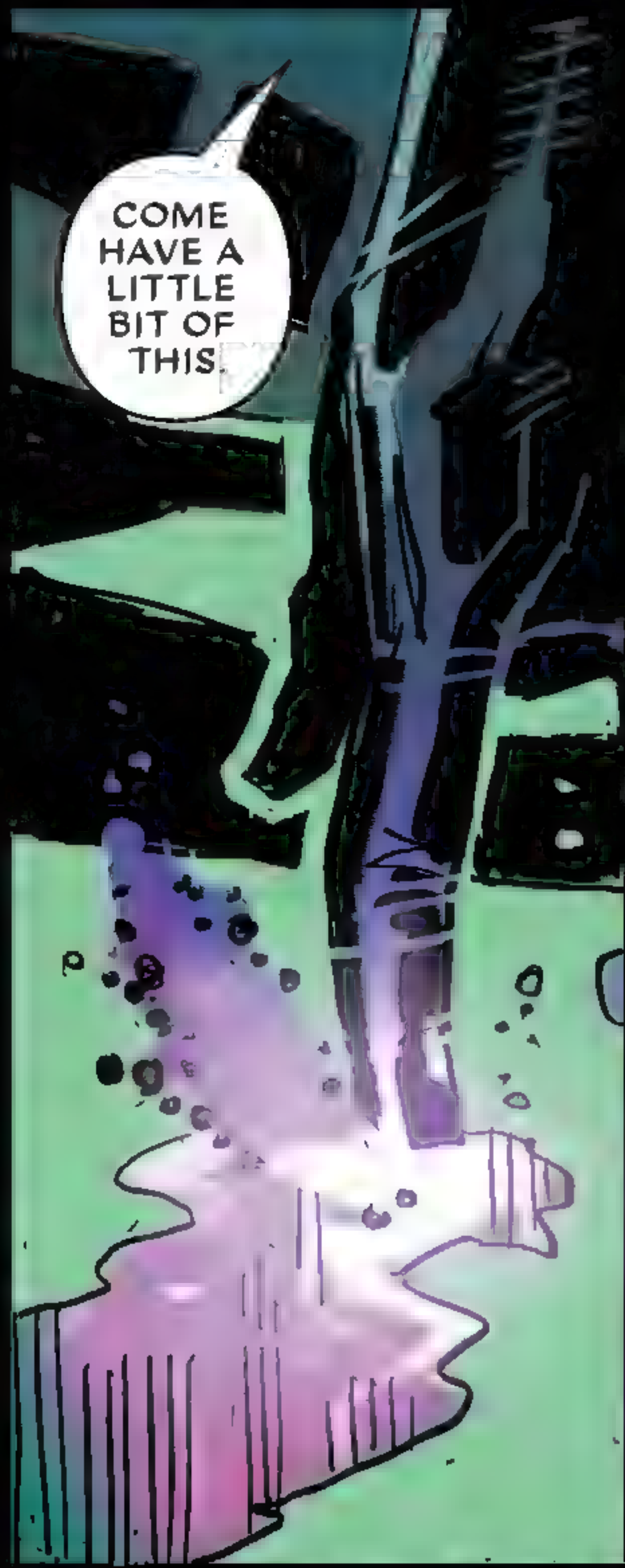


NNNGH...



HEY, PROTEUS. YOU LOOK **HUNGRY**, FRIEND. BAD BAD.

PROBABLY NEED SOME ENERGY, EH?



COME HAVE A LITTLE BIT OF THIS.



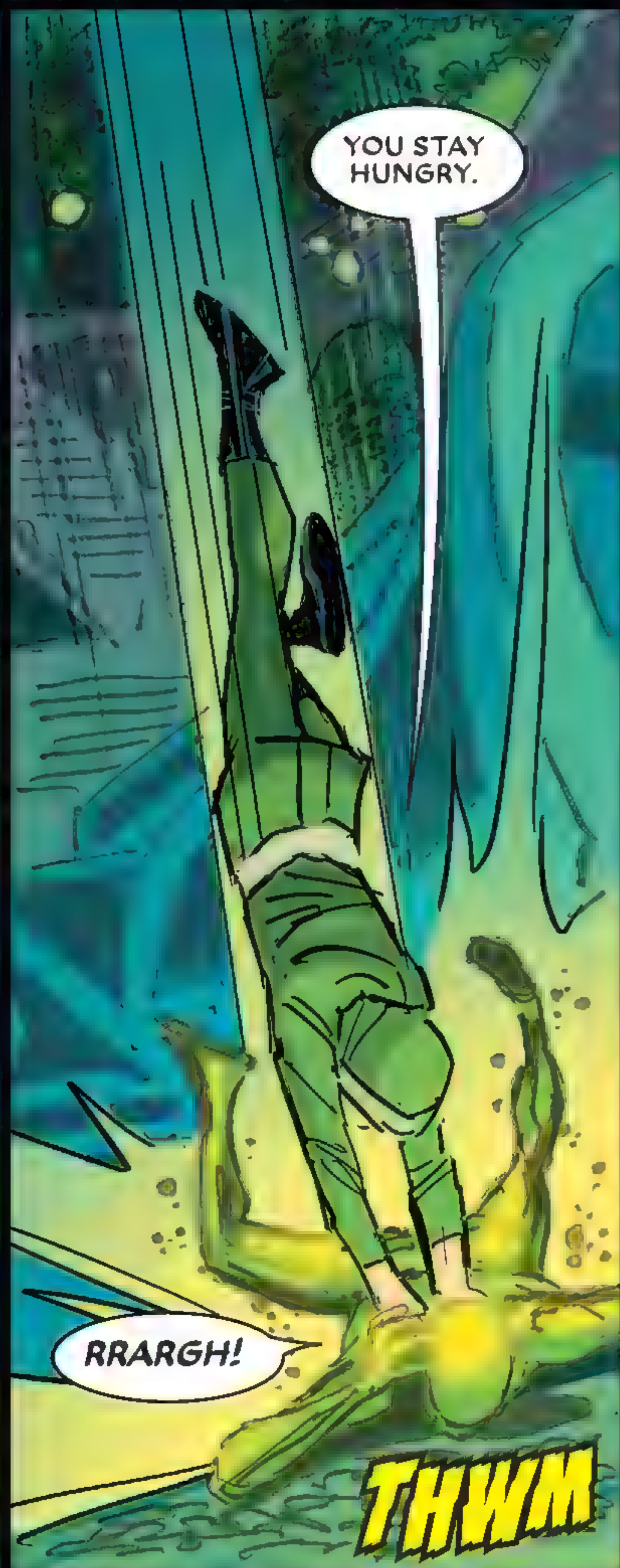
HAVE TO... HAVE TO...



...EEEEAAATTT...



NO, PROTEUS.



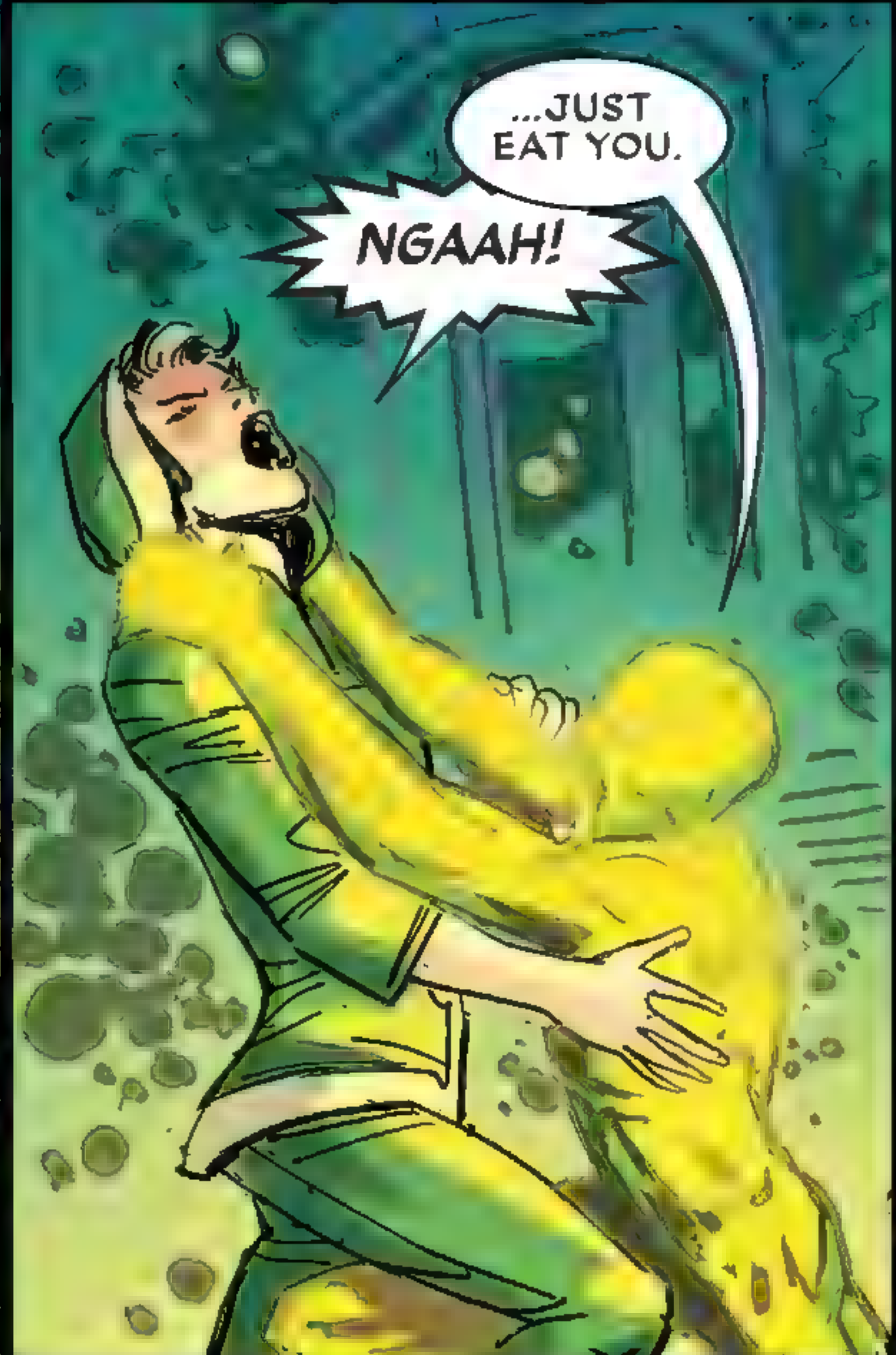
YOU STAY HUNGRY.

RRARGH!

THWM



OH, I DON'T KNOW, ROGUE...I CAN ALWAYS...



...JUST EAT YOU.

NGAAH!



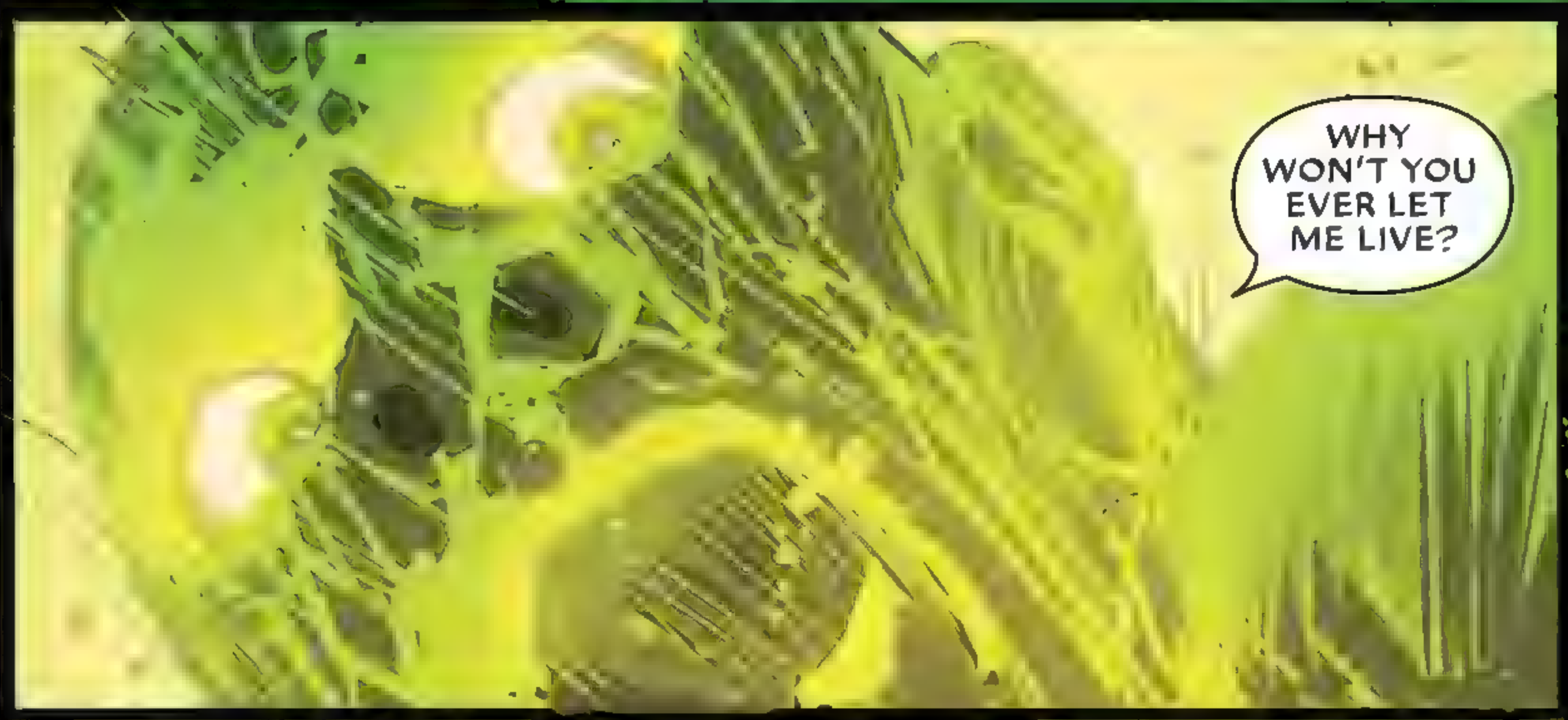
CHERE! HE'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU! YOU CAN'T ABSORB THAT MUCH ENERGY!

STAY BACK, GAMBIT! PROTEUS AIN'T GONNA BEAT ME...I BEEN DOING THIS A LONG TIME.

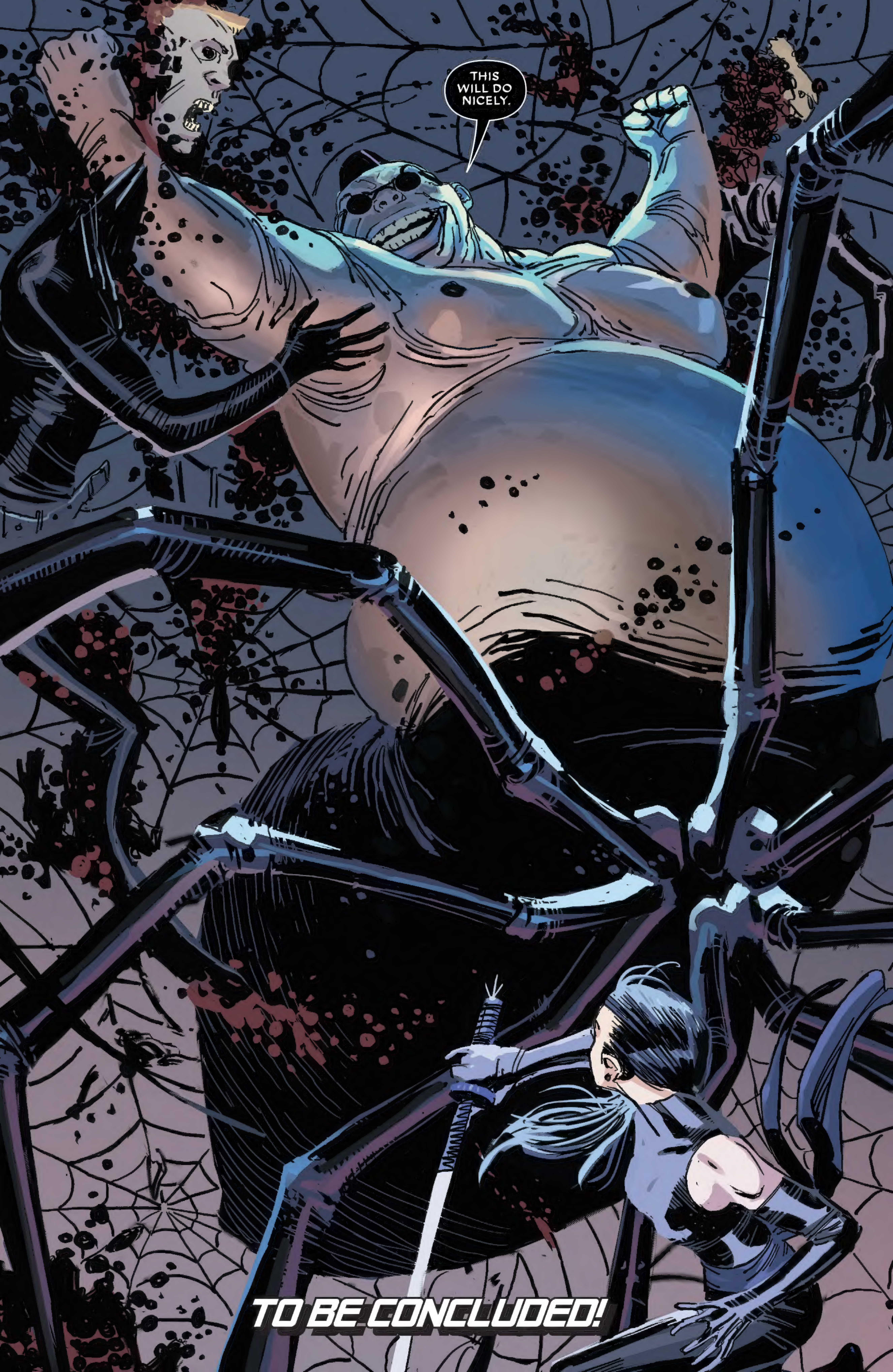
STILL...



...WOULDN'T MIND MAYBE A LITTLE HELP HERE...







THIS
WILL DO
NICELY.

TO BE CONCLUDED!

#12

**CHARLES SOULE'S EPIC STORY
CONCLUDES WITH ARTIST
GERARDO SANDOVAL!**



LAND
delgado

